

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of Species II corresponding to claims 1, 5, and 7 in the reply filed on 6/24/2010 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 5 and 7 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Enomoto et al. (JP 11218173 A).

Enomoto et al. discloses a torque rod (Fig. 5) comprising a(n):

Re claim 1

- Torque rod (Fig. 5) structure comprising a rod portion (201) with a built-in pair of rubber bushes (232), which are formed respectively around a pair of cylinders (202), the rod portion linking both the rubber bushes
- Cross sectional shape of the central portion of the rod portion forms a rectangular shape (at 201 in at least Fig. 6), one pair of opposing edges of the rectangular shape form a shape which bulges outward (see bulging opposing edges near 201; Fig. 5)

Re claim 5

- Rod portion is shaped with a plurality of void portions (near 201; Fig. 5)

Re claim 7

- Void portions are formed on the bulging edges (near 201; Fig. 5)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL YABUT whose telephone number is (571)270-5526. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard W. Ridley can be reached on (571)272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/DANIEL YABUT/
Examiner, Art Unit 3656
10/12/2010

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/Richard WL Ridley/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3656